

### CLAIMS

1. A vehicle speed control system for a vehicle,  
the vehicle equipped with an engine and an automatic  
transmission, the vehicle control system comprising:
- 5 a coast switch for decreasing a set vehicle  
speed; and  
a controller connected with said coast switch,  
said controller,  
controlling a vehicle speed at the set vehicle  
10 speed by controlling a throttle of the engine and the  
automatic transmission, and  
maintaining a gear ratio of the automatic  
transmission at the gear ratio set at the moment  
before decreasing the set vehicle speed when the  
15 coast switch is being operated to decrease the set  
vehicle speed.
2. A vehicle speed control system for a vehicle,  
the vehicle equipped with an engine and an automatic  
20 transmission, the vehicle control system comprising:  
a vehicle cruise speed setting device for  
setting a set vehicle speed; and  
a controller connected with said vehicle cruise  
speed setting device, said controller,  
25 controlling a vehicle speed at the set vehicle  
speed by controlling a throttle of the engine and the  
automatic transmission,  
fixing a gear ratio of the automatic  
transmission during a time period when a decreasing  
30 operation of the set vehicle speed by means of said  
vehicle cruise speed device is executed.
3. The vehicle speed control system as claimed in

claim 2, wherein said controller commands the automatic transmission to prohibit from executing a shift down when the set vehicle speed is being decreased by operating said vehicle cruise speed setting device.

4. The vehicle speed control system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said controller commands the engine to start a deceleration control when the set vehicle speed is being decreased by operating said vehicle cruise speed setting device.

5. The vehicle speed control system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said vehicle cruise speed setting device comprises a set switch for setting the set vehicle speed, a coast switch for decreasing the set vehicle speed and an accelerate switch for increasing the set vehicle speed, said vehicle cruise speed setting device is manually operated by a vehicle occupant.

6. The vehicle speed control system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said controller controls the engine rotation speed within a predetermined limit when the vehicle speed at the moment of restarting the vehicle speed control is greater than or equal to the target vehicle speed.

7. A method for executing a vehicle speed control, comprising:

controlling a vehicle speed at a set vehicle speed by controlling an engine and an automatic transmission of the vehicle;

detecting whether the set vehicle speed is being decreased; and

- maintaining a gear ratio of the automatic transmission at a vehicle when said vehicle cruise speed device is being operated to is decrease the set vehicle speed.
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